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Fall 2015

TRNS 6010

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University of New Orleans

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Transportation Seminar

TRNS 6010, Sec. 495

Hybrid Format

Online & Required Meetings:
Thursday & Friday, November 12 & 13, 2015
8 am – 4 pm
(Meeting location to be announced)

Instructor: Dr. John L. Renne, AICP
Email: jrenne@uno.edu
Office: 378 Milneburg Hall
Phone: (504) 280-6592 (office)

Office Hours: **All times by appointment.**
Please book appointments at:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 1 – 4 pm
Other times are also available by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW

Transportation Seminar is an overview of the professional practice and serves as a core course for the Master of Science in Transportation. The course introduces students to the various roles and responsibilities of transportation professionals as well as transportation policy and planning at various scales, across freight and passenger transportation systems towards the goal of creating a more multimodal and intermodal transportation system across the United States with connecting to a global transportation network. The course examines both public and private sectors roles in the transportation system.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal for this course is to introduce students to the multimodal and intermodal nature of freight and passenger transportation systems, along with the various roles of transportation professionals, managers and decision makers working at various scales.

Objectives include:

- Understanding the types of careers available to transportation professionals
- Understanding the meaning of a multimodal transportation system
- Understanding the meaning of an intermodal transportation system
- Understanding the different types of policies and plans that impact freight and passenger transportation systems
- Learning how different government agencies and private firms operate across different scales, including local, regional, national and international contexts

Upon completing this course, students should obtain the following skills as Student Learning Outcomes:

- Applying discipline knowledge
- Critical thinking by using analytical skills to solve problems
- Information skills to have the confidence to investigate new ideas
- Written and oral communication skills
- Technology skills
- Learning how to learn in group settings
- International perspective
- Professional skills

STUDENT HONESTY POLICY

All students are expected to understand and abide by the Academic Honesty Policies as promulgated by the University of New Orleans (see: <http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/documents/academic-dishonesty-policy-rev2014.pdf>).

If a student is uncertain about an issue of academic honesty, they should consult me before submitting an assignment. Once an assignment has been submitted, the student acknowledges their compliance with university policies. Violations of academic honesty include but are not limited to, **cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submission, plagiarism, and collusion.**

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact me and/or the Office of Disability Services to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class Participation

All students are required to attend and participate in all class meetings and online forums.

News and Reading Summaries

Four news and reading summaries will be required.

Students must cite and link two current news articles, which relates to the required readings. Articles from local, state, national or international sources are acceptable. You are required to submit via Moodle in a 2 – 4 page summary demonstrating how the articles relate to the course readings. You must reference the course readings in your article summaries, including citations and a bibliography, the same way you would reference sources in a term paper.

Transportation Public Meeting Reviews

Students will be required to observe two public meetings on a transportation project. You must provide a 2 – 3 page summary of each meeting. In addition to a short summary of what was discussed and who presented, you must also provide a critique of what the presenters did well and what could be improved.

Case Study – Oral Presentation with Powerpoint

Students will be required to conduct a case study and give an oral presentation to the class. Additional details will be provided during the course.

Group Project

Students will be required to work on a group project during the in-person meeting of the course. More details will be given during the course.

Term Paper

Students are required submit a term paper. Additional details will be provided during the course.

Late Work

Any work turned in late will receive an automatic 10% deduction as well as a 2% deduction for each day that the work is late (not including the 1st day). For example, if the assignment is 4 days late, the penalty will be $10\% + 2\% + 2\% + 2\% = 16\%$ deduction. In this example, the highest score that a student could receive for the assignment is an 84%.

Grading Overview

Graduate Students:

- Class Attendance and Participation (10%)
- Article Summaries (20%) (5% each)
- Transportation Public Meeting Reviews (10%) (5% each)
- Case Study Powerpoint Presentation (10%)
- Midterm (10%)
- Group Project (10%)
- Graduate Term Paper (15%)
- Final Exam (15%)

Letter grades will be assigned based on the overall percentage:

- A – 90% and above
- B – 80% - 89%
- C – 70% - 79%
- D – 60% - 69%
- F – less than 60%

References and Citations

All work must be cited in the same style and format used by the *Journal of the American Planning Association (JAPA)*. Work cited within the body of the paper must utilize the (Author, year) format for paraphrased material and (Author, year, pg #) for direct quotes. All direct quotes longer than three lines must be in blocked format. JAPA utilizes *The Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition* for references. More information can be found at: <https://www.planning.org/pas/memo/contributor.htm>

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND COURSE READINGS

Below is a schedule of topics and readings. All readings are due at the beginning of the class.

Classes Begin August 19, 2015

Week 0: Course Overview, Week of August 19th (Note: this is a short week)

Assignment: Moodle Self-Introduction Week 1 Forum

- Upload a photo of yourself if you have not done so yet to your Moodle profile
- Where are you from?
- Which program of study are you in?
- Why did you decide to study transportation?
- What are your future career goals?

COURSE SECTION ON FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MODES

Week 1: Intro to the Field of Transportation, Week of August 24th

Readings due:

Transportation Research Board. 2013. Critical Issues in Transportation. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/Onlinepubs/general/criticalissues13.pdf>

Renne, John. *Forthcoming*. The Road (Becoming) Less Travelled. The History of Highways in America. *Journal of Urban History*.

Week 2: Trucking, Week of August 31st

News and Reading Summary Paper # 1 Due Tuesday, September 1st

Readings due:

Burks, Stephen V. et al.. 2010. Trucking 101: An Industry Primer. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/circulars/ec146.pdf>

Week 3: Freight Rail, Week of September 7th

Readings due:

Bryan, Joseph, Weisbrod, Glen and Carl Martland. 2007. Rail Freight Solutions to Roadway Congestion— Final Report and Guidebook. NCHRP 586. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_586.pdf

Week 4: Maritime Shipping, Week of September 14th

News and Reading Summary Paper # 2 Due Tuesday, September 15th

Readings due:

Kruse, C. James and Nathan Hutson. 2010. North American Marine Highways. NCFRP 5. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ncfrp/ncfrp_rpt_005.pdf

Wakeman, Thomas and Michael Bomba. 2010. Maritime Freight Transportation, National Economic Recovery, and Global Sustainability: Coordinating a Strategic Plan. TR News. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/trnews/trnews269MarineFreightTrans.pdf>

Week 5: Intermodalism, Week of September 21st

Transportation Public Meeting Review # 1 Due Tuesday September 22nd

Readings due:

Committee for Study of Policy Options To Address Intermodal Freight Transportation. 1998. Policy Options for Intermodal Freight Transportation. Special Report 252. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at: <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/sr/sr252.pdf>

COURSE SECTION ON PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION MODES

Week 6: Vehicles, Week of September 28th

News and Reading Summary Paper # 3 Due Tuesday, September 29th

Readings due:

Anderson, James et al. 2014. *Autonomous Vehicle Technology: A Guide for Policy Makers*. Santa Monica, CA: Rand Corporation. Available at: http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR400/RR443-1/RAND_RR443-1.pdf (read Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 8).

Week 7: Mid-Term Exam, Week of October 5th

Mid-Term Exam Due Tuesday, October 6 by 5 pm in Moodle

Week 8: Transit Planning, Week of October 12th

News and Reading Summary Paper # 4 Due Tuesday, October 13th

Readings due:

Center for Urban Transportation Research. 2009. Best Practices in Transit Service Planning. Prepared for the Florida Department of Transportation. Available at: <http://www.nctr.usf.edu/pdf/77720.pdf>

Week 9: Passenger Rail Systems, Week of October 19th

Reading due:

Litman, Todd. 2012. Rail Transit in America: A Comprehensive Evaluation of Benefits. Produced with support from the American Public Transportation Association. Victoria, B.C.: Victoria Transport Policy Institute. Available at: <http://www.vtpi.org/railben.pdf>

Week 10: Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems, Week of October 26th

Reading due:

U.S. Department of Transportation, John A Volpe National Transportation Systems Center. 2014. Statewide Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning Handbook. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Available at: http://www.planning.dot.gov/documents/Ped-Bike_State_Planning_Handbook.pdf

Week 11: Multimodalism, Week of November 2nd

Reading due:

Litman, Todd. 2012. Introduction to Multi-Modal Transportation Planning: Principles and Practices. Victoria, B.C.: Victoria Transport Policy Institute. Available at: http://www.vtpi.org/multimodal_planning.pdf

COURSE SECTION ON GOVERNANCE LEVEL AND SECTOR

Week 12: Federal Role, Week of November 9th

Case Study Powerpoint Presentation Due Tuesday, November 10th

Reading due:

Transportation Planning Capacity Program. 2007. The Transportation Planning Process: Key Issues. Prepared by Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. Available at: <http://www.planning.dot.gov/documents/briefingbook/bbook.htm>

Required In-Person Course Meetings

Thursday & Friday, November 12 & 13, 2015
8 am – 4 pm

Additional agenda information about these meetings will be sent to students before the meetings.

Week 13: State & Regional Roles, Week of November 16th

Transportation Public Meeting Review # 2 Due Tuesday, November 17th

Reading due:

D'Ignazio, Janet, Rhodes, Suzann, and Craig Secrest. The Role of Planning in a 21st Century State Department of Transportation—Supporting Strategic Decisionmaking. NCHRP 798. Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board. Available at:
http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_798.pdf

U.S. Department of Transportation, John A Volpe National Transportation Systems Center. 2012. Best Planning Practices: Metropolitan Transportation Plans. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Available at:
http://www.planning.dot.gov/documents/BestPlanningPractices_MTP.pdf

Week 14: Thanksgiving, Week of November 23rd

Term Paper Due Tuesday, November 24th

Week 15: Private Sector, Week of November 30th

Reading Due:

Wilbur Smith Associates and S.R. Kale Consulting, LLC. 2010. A Guidebook for Engaging the Private Sector in Freight Transportation Planning. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Available at:
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/freight_planning/guidebook/guidebook.pdf

Winston, Clifford. 2014. How the Private Sector Can Improve Public Transportation Infrastructure. Reserve Bank of Australia. Available at:
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2014/07/improve_transportation_infrastructure_private_sector_winston/improve_transportation_infrastructure_private_sector_winston.pdf

Final Exam, Week of December 7th

Syllabus Attachment

Important Dates*

Last day to adjust schedule w/out fee	08/18/2015
Semester Classes Begin	08/19/2015
Last day to adjust schedule w/fee, or withdraw with 100% refund	08/25/2015
Last day to apply for December commencement	09/25/2015
Final day to drop a course or resign	10/14/2015
Mid-semester examinations	10/05-10/09/2015
Final examinations	12/07-12/11/2015
Commencement	12/18/2015

**Note: check Registrar's website for Saturday and A/B sessions, and for items not listed here:
<http://www.registrar.uno.edu>*

Fall Semester Holidays

Labor Day	09/07/2015
Mid-semester break	10/15-10/16/2015
Thanksgiving	11/26-11/27/2015

Withdrawal Policy – Undergraduate only

Students are responsible for initiating action to resign from the University (withdraw from all courses) or from a course on or before dates indicated in the current Important dates calendar. Students who fail to resign by the published final date for such action will be retained on the class rolls even though they may be absent for the remainder of the semester and be graded as if they were in attendance. Failure to attend classes does not constitute a resignation. Check the dates on the Registrar's website, <http://www.registrar.uno.edu>. Please consult The Bulletin for charges associated with dropping and adding courses.

Incomplete Policy – Undergraduate only

The grade of I means *incomplete* and is given for work of passing quality but which, because of circumstances beyond the student's control, is not complete. The issuance of the grade of I is at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course. For all graduate and undergraduate students, a grade of I becomes a grade of F if it is not converted before the deadline for adding courses for credit (as printed in the Important Dates Calendar) of the next regular semester including summer semester.

Repeat Policy

When a student is permitted to repeat a course for credit, the last grade earned shall be the one which determines course acceptability for degree credit. A student who has earned a C or better in a course may not repeat that course unless, (1) the catalog description indicates that the course may be repeated for credit, or (2) the student's Dean gives prior approval for documented extenuating circumstances.

Graduate Policies

Graduate policies often vary from undergraduate policies. To view the applicable policies for graduate students, see the Graduate Student Handbook:

<http://www.uno.edu/grad/documents/GraduateStudentHandbook2014.pdf>

Academic Dishonesty Policy

<http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/documents/academic-dishonesty-policy-rev2014.pdf>

Safety Awareness Facts and Education

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here:

<http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/>

UNO Counseling Services and UNO Cares
UNO offers care and support for students in any type of distress. Counseling Services assist students in addressing mental health concerns through assessment, short-term counseling, and career testing and counseling. Find out more at

<http://www.uno.edu/counseling-services/>. First-year students often have unique concerns, and UNO Cares is designed to address those students succeed. Contact UNO Cares through <http://www.uno.edu/fye/uno-cares.aspx>.

Emergency Procedures

Sign up for emergency notifications via text and/or email at E2Campus Notification:

<http://www.uno.edu/ehso/emergency-communications/index.aspx>. All emergency and safety procedures are explained at the Emergency Health and Safety Office: <http://www.uno.edu/ehso/>.

Diversity at UNO

As the most diverse public university in the state, UNO maintains a Diversity Affairs division to support the university's efforts towards creating an environment of healthy respect, tolerance, and appreciation for the people from all walks of life, and the expression of intellectual point of view and personal lifestyle. The Office of Diversity Affairs promotes these values through a wide range of programming and activities. <http://diversity.uno.edu/index.cfm>

Learning and Support Services

Help is within reach in the form of learning support services, including tutoring in writing and math and other supplemental instruction. Visit the Learning Resource Center in LA 334, or learn more at <http://www.uno.edu/lrc/>.

Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity

UNO is an equal opportunity employer. The Human Resource Management department has more information on UNO's compliance with federal and state regulations regarding EEOC in its Policies and Resources website: <http://www.uno.edu/human-resource-management/policies.aspx>